

# TELEGRAM

VOLUME 63, Number 3 August 2017

Newsletter of Shults-Lewis Child and Family Services

# Shults-Lewis Welcomes "KIDS" as part of Day of Prayer & Giving.



### **Shults-Lewis Child** and **Family Services**

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**Beth Frump Director of Development** 



## The Wait is Over ???

Jim Powell, Executive Director

od is good! The wait is over! He has responded to our pleas for help, and we now have a full complement of houseparents in place and receiving their training! You will see pictures of them, and read about them throughout this publication, but I just wanted to share what a blessing and relief it is to have couples who have committed to begin their work in this ministry.



I have confessed in the past how difficult it is for me to wait for things. So, over the course of the past four years or so, there have been many times when I began to question God, wondering why it was so difficult to find people willing to serve in the role of houseparents.

When you enter my office, you will see a beautifully framed picture hanging over the fireplace mantel, displaying the Psalmists' thoughts found in Psalm 27:14, "Wait for the Lord, be strong and let your heart take courage, wait for the Lord." A few years ago, one of the young ladies in our program had a wonderful talent in photography, and when I told her that I really liked the message of Psalm 27:14, she created the photo by placing a pair of old reading glasses in such a way on top of a Bible, that they magnified the chapter designation of Psalm 27, while the verse itself is imprinted in the upper left corner. It is a constant reminder to me to wait patiently for God to act in His timing, and not my impatience.

Please don't misunderstand. God has continued to richly bless us in so many ways, especially during the past few months. We have received impeccably timed financial donations, continue to be blessed by the love and fellowship of visiting groups, and enjoy a beautiful and well maintained campus, but without houseparents in the homes, we are unable to adequately serve children in need.

"Wait for the Lord, be strong and let your heart take courage, wait for the Lord." Psalm 27:14 I am convinced that the wait is not over. As a matter of fact, in reality, it is just beginning. I believe in my heart that God has put into motion blessings that are too numerous for me to mention. Plans, that when He is ready, will be revealed to us. All along He has been presenting opportunities for us to share His love with those who are so desperate and needy, and preparing us for the journey He is leading us on.

So, in times like this, we simply pause to say "thank you" for your continued financial support and encouragement of this much needed ministry of service. You help make the difference for our young people and their families as we share God and His love with them.

We are excited for the period ahead of us here on campus. There is an air of renewed energy and anticipation with the arrival of our newest staff members. We solicit your prayers in our behalf, and invite you to visit campus to see all the new things taking place, and spending some time with us. Whenever you're ready – we'll be waiting!

For Christ and the kids,

# Congratulations Drake & Tony

n May, we held our Annual Celebration of Strengths Banquet where we honor our kids for their strengths and accomplishments. Congrats to these young men, our "big award" winners. Drake was awarded the Davis Award for "putting away the old self and putting on the new" and Tony, the Golden Rule Award! We are so proud of these guys and all of our amazing kids!!!



# **Latest Developments**

**Beth Frump,** Director of Development bethfrump@shultslewis.org

ut your own oxygen mask on yourself before helping small children and others around you..." If you've flown, you've heard it. I'm sure you've also heard that illustration used to describe life as a mother, father, preacher, elder, wife, etc. One of the best ways we combat fatigue at Shults-Lewis is through Self-Care plans. (I know, it's shocking but this ministry can be exhausting and draining if you are not constantly feeding yourself spiritually, emotionally, and physically.)

As we finished our latest training on Self-Care Plans, we were asked to each write a care plan for ourselves. After filling out the spiritual and physical aspects, I turned to emotional and began to write, "Spend time with my donors and supporting congregations". Wait, what? That's part of your job. This is supposed to be ways to take care of yourself. It is. Spending time with you is one of the best ways for me to emotionally take care of myself.

You fuel me. You are my oxygen mask.

I appreciate every little note of encouragement and e-mail that you send. I love talking to you on the phone. I love the facebook messages, Snaps, and social media fun with you. I love the small gifts and gestures you send my way. I absolutely love when you stop by and visit. I love showing you around campus. You are such an encouragement to me. You fuel me.

I enjoyed spending a day at the **Golf Tournament** with you, laughing, sharing, and golfing, all while raising \$30,000 for the kids! You fuel me.

I've enjoyed spending time with all the various **Groups** on campus. We've seen baseball games, played 9 Square, had



Scavenger Hunts, seen movies, enjoyed pizza parties, made lasting memories, laughed until we cried, and...oh, yeah, you worked. You worked hard! You've given up your time and spent time serving. You've encouraged me, fueled me.

**Day of Prayer & Giving** has an awesome start as we have already raised over \$32,000 (as of July 10th) for the Barn Program and renovations for our homes and school. That is AWESOME and absolutely fuels me!

One of the best days that you fuel me—**Annual Day** is just around the corner. Come visit us on **Saturday, September 16th**. Come meet all of our new houseparents that you prayed so diligently for. Come meet the kids. Come eat a piece of pie with me and catch me up on how things are going in your congregation. Come see the animals at the Barn. Come listen to Gr8ful Praise. Just come.

July 1st I celebrated my 20th year of employment at Shults-Lewis. I am so blessed to be a part of this ministry. Every single day, I thank God for this opportunity and for you! Here's to another 20 years...you with me?

See you in September!



# **School Happenings**

f necessity is the mother of invention, then frustration is the father of creativity."

Vickie Terhune gave us nearly a year of notice that she was going to be retiring in December of 2016. At that point, we began the search for a Math teacher, a position that still remains vacant. Having one teacher covering Math & Science, with an aide who helps monitor study time, was our short term solution. However, as Mrs. Chowning, our English teacher, has announced her upcoming retirement, it became obvious that it was time to get creative and think outside the box.

Necessity and creativity brought us to the addition of an online component to our curriculum. While online classes are nothing new to most schools, it is a major transition for us. Starting this Fall, our kids will be able to use Chromebooks (purchased with grant monies) to work on their education. For our students who struggle with academics, the program offers credit recovery and a teacher monitored self-paced learning that will teach them at the level they are currently placed, while guiding them along to catch up to where their peers are. For the students who excel, it will offer elective classes that we have not been able to provide prior to this transition. Our teachers and aides will be able to give one-on-

one attention and supplement the online program to offer the best education possible for our students.

While the students will receive the required hours of classroom time each day, we have begun to make changes to our daily schedule. Groups, for instance, will be used to break up the morning time to help the kids, many who struggle with attention-span, a chance to get up, move, and use up some of their energy. We are looking at the potential of adding some enhancement activities to our days such as the ability to learn more about careers and trades, visit colleges, job shadow, and the like, to help them make informed decisions on what they want their future to look like.

As the traditional classroom set-up is not necessary for the online classes, we have begun making structural changes to some classrooms to create a learning environment that is inspiring for the students and supportive for the education staff. We are very thankful for our summer visiting groups who have helped us pack up and move classrooms, tear down a wall, and begin to create this new learning environment.

We are excited about these changes and invite you to come out on Annual Day, Saturday, September 16th, to see them.



# The Barn

e'd like to introduce you to Millie, Penny, Frankie, Lucy, Stella, and Daisy. We have fallen in love with our newest additions, our pygmy goats. The goats are part of the Barn Program that we are excited to be re-opening here.

Through your participation in Day of Prayer & Giving and through the assistance of our summer visiting groups, we were able to restore the barn. Groups from Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, and even Tennessee have put countless hours working on cleaning, ripping out and replacing fences, painting, and removing years of weeds.

The animals are going to be a part of our therapeutic program, as well as our educational program. It is our hope that our kids will also get involved with the local 4H program again.



As the donations continue to come in for the Barn Program, we will be expanding the program to more animals and more activities.





8:00am - 10:00am · Breakfast

Biscuits and gravy, donuts and coffee for early bird arrivals served in the Frampton/Wright Building

9:30am - 2:30pm

Craft, food and information booths will be open

## 10:00am • Welcome Introductions & Announcements

Be sure to visit the Rummage Sale located in the Gymnasium of the Frampton/Wright Youth Development Center

### 10:30am - 12:30pm · Tours

Tours of the Shults-Lewis Campus. Meet prior to the tour in front of the Administration Building

## 12:30pm • Benefit Auction

Times are subject to change



## From My Heart to Yours

**Angela Robertson,** Program Director angelarobertson@shultslewis.org

ell, summer is finally here and it is wonderful! God has blessed us with three sets of new houseparents which I am thrilled to tell you about. Dale

& Maddi Nelson are from Chester, Virginia. Maddi is a licensed English teacher. She taught in the public school system for 3 years; she taught 9th graders so she is perfectly qualified for working with teenagers! Dale worked in therapeutic foster care, so he is well aware of the struggles – as well as the triumphs – that come with working with teenagers. Maddi loves to read and write and has even had a couple of poems published! Dale is a history buff; he is very interested in ancient mythology and cultures.



Derric & Alejandra (Aley) Franklin are from Elgin, IL. Before moving to Shults-Lewis, Derric worked at a staffing agency and Aley worked in data entry. Derric studied at Sunset Bible Institute in Lubbock, Texas; he loves to preach and teach. Aley is fluent in sign language and has been an interpreter in the past. One thing you might be interested in knowing about Derric and Aley is that they are big movie buffs and love to how!



Joel & Kerri Halsey, along with their 11 year-old son, Danner, are from Kendallville, IN. Joel worked as an Account Manager at a book printing company before moving to Shults-Lewis. Kerri worked part-time. She is an avid cook and likes to read. Joel loves to hunt (but doesn't like to fish) and loves to ride his Harley Soft-Tail motorcycle. In their free time, Joel and Kerri love to go to different "Mom & Pop" restaurants and try out their cuisine. Another interesting, but little known fact, is that they both like to renovate houses, both to live in and to sell. However, Joel and Derric will not be going to movies together anytime soon – Joel hates going to movies! He says he can't sit still that long!



What a diverse and unique group of new houseparents we have! We are thrilled to welcome each of these families to our Shults-Lewis community. Please keep them in your prayers as they answer God's call to service at Shults-Lewis.

Although it is sad that we live in a world where we need agencies to care for kids, I feel blessed to know that there are people who care so much about helping them and serving others. I hope it can be comforting to families to know that there is a place where they can go for help and understanding. God has blessed us so much this past year. We ask for your prayers as we continue this work.

I want to thank all of those who support us both financially and through prayer. God is doing great things here at Shults-Lewis and I would love to share those with all of you.















# Shults-Lewis HONORS & REMEMBERS...

April 1, 2017- July 10, 2017

#### **HONORS**

#### **Kyndal Bass**

Happy Birthday! James & Patrice Bass, Jr.

#### **Cooksville Church of Christ**

For faithful servants!
The Tom Vaughn Family

#### **Drake**

For receiving the Davis Award! Cecil & Jacqui Brown

#### Richard Foellner

Thank you!
Tom & Frances Vaughn

#### **Anita Henry**

Tom & Frances Vaughn

#### **Shults-Lewis Houseparents**

Mary Youngblood

#### Harry & Alice Johnessee

Daniel & Michele Brennecke

#### Leland & Judy LeMaster

Terry & Gisela LeMaster

#### Orval & Hilda Luhrsen

Happy 60th Anniversary! The Tom Vaughn Family

#### Rose Miller

Marilyn Benish

#### **Bob & Jane Niles**

Happy 67th Anniversary! The Tom Vaughn Family

#### **Larry & Carole Powell**

Happy Birthdays!
The Tom Vaughn Family

#### **Riders for Christ**

Jeff Venable

#### **Esther Ross**

Happy Birthday! The Tom Vaughn Family

#### Wayne & Elaine Schmidt

Happy 66th Anniversary! Tom & Frances Vaughn

#### **Renee Stewart**

Tom & Frances Vaughn

#### Tony

For receiving the Golden Rule Award! Cecil & Jacqui Brown

#### Roger & Becky Weaver

Ryan Weaver

#### **Beverly Zagar**

For all her hard work for Ukraine Orphans

Don & Mary Jane Baugh

#### **MEMORIALS**

#### **Delbert Allen**

Jerry & Martha Wheeler

#### Kenneth Allen, Sr.

Nancy Allen

#### **Philip Anderson**

Bonnie Clipp Anderson

#### Ralph & Birdie Anderson

The Tom Vaughn Family

#### **Linda Bailey**

Mary Pierce Glenn & Angela Robertson

#### Gerald & Ruth Bambacht

Jim & Barbara Balbo
Ken & Kim Bambacht
Gerald & Sue Belding
Millicent Belding
Millicent Belding
Marilyn Benish
Harold Cregor
Cindy Flaugher
Jim & Bonnie Gatewood
Karen Gow
Larry & Carol Grimes
Gorden & Janet Hutchins
Ray & Vera Juday
Sandra King
Chris & Lenore Spahr

#### Rita Barker

Charles & Kathleen Barker

#### James Richard Bass, Jr.

Patti Dougherty Michael & Terrie Earp Jerald Lertzman Stephanie Parker Michael & Martha Swendsen Tom & Louise Taylor Kristen Bass Kraft Tennis Team Tribune Media HR Dept in Chicago, IL

#### Lucy Benham

Robert & Jackie Benham

#### Anderson & Johnie Berry

Gregory & Patsy Pugh

#### James Berry, Sr.

Alan & Gail Diana

#### James Berry, Jr.

Alan & Gail Diana

#### **Donald Birk**

Larry & Renel Birk

#### Imogene "Jean" Blomberg

Elke Harms Epilepsy Center Lurie Children's

Matt & Sue Kendall Rob & Kelly Olejniczak James & Amy Williams Thomas & Tina Williams

#### Vernon Boyd

Alice Boyd

#### Lanona Branson

Gordon & Peggy Bennett

#### **Arlin Brown**

Robert & Jackie Benham

#### **Donald Brown**

Tom & Frances Vaughn

#### **Mary Buckner**

Jim & Mary Anne Watters

#### **Hayward Burton**

Steve & Terry Cauzillo

#### **Tedd Allen Case**

Linda Case

#### Vaughn & Faye Clipp

Bonnie Clipp Anderson

#### M.J. Cotham

The Tom Vaughn Family

#### Roberta Cowgur

Anonymous

#### **Tammy Crilley**

Thomas & Patricia Crilley

#### Joe Deckard

David & Michelle Parson

## Nick Denny

Lois Denny

#### Patricia Ann Denny

Lois Denny

#### Patricia Derr

Harold & Edna Faughn

#### Jim Duncan

Vic & Linda Seeley

#### **Debbie Ellis**

James & Peggy Steele

#### **Essie Ellis**

Georgia Alexander

#### **Marlon Ellis**

Willie & Paulette Ellis

#### Abbie Frick

Tom & Frances Vaughn

#### Juanita Garrett

Ken Garrett Ron Garrett

Jim & Mary Anne Watters

#### **Chris Geisey**

Michael & Kim Lawrence

#### **Ted Gerrisk**

Don & Mary Jane Baugh

#### Sean Given

Diana Mangrum

#### **Runnell Guthrie**

Alex & Joan Jeal

#### Gilbert Guymer

Barbara Guymer

Mark & Joyce Harmon

The Nolan Family

Jim, Lois, & Thelma Harrington

Jim & Debbie Arnett

Hiram & Leah Hayes

The Tom Vaughn Family

Mary Henkel

The Staff & Children of Shults-Lewis

**Cheryl Hensch** 

Waterford Church of Christ

**Bobby & Donna Holmes** 

The Tom Vaughn Family

Norman Jackson

Bettye Jackson

Ralph Jackson, Jr.

Don & Mary Jane Baugh

**Carrie Johnson** 

Debbie Knaack

Bill Jordan

The Tom Vaughn Family

**Bob Jordan** 

The Tom Vaughn Family

Jean Kendall

Jim & Mary Anne Watters

Robert Kirks

Andy & Suzy Peper

**Cleotis Klass** 

John & Sue Grafe

Gene Knaack

Debbie Knaack

Louise Knaack

Debbie Knaack

Sylvia Konecny

Dorothy Tucker

**Tracy Landis** 

AOP Team

**Emily Landis** 

**James Lawrence** 

Rickie & Tina Furness

John & Helen LeMaster

Terry & Gisela LeMaster

**JoAnn Lindsey** 

Joyce Shea

**Delphine Lohr** 

Geraldine Petty

**Bob Lowry** 

Nancy Truex

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Virginia Mays

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Joe & Pat McClain

Angella McFall

Daniel McFall

**Shirley Mellon** 

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Selma Murphy

James Loman Nelson

Jack & Nell Allen

Cal & Pat Seccombe

Robert Nolan

The Nolan Family

Linda Parker

Adrian Church of Christ

Lori Plunkett

Kenneth Slatton

Cecil & Jessie Fay Powell

Laura Shannon

Erdie & Anne Pugh

Gregory & Patsy Pugh

Jim, Phila, and Steve Racklyeft

Barney & Sharon Neill

IJ Raper

Adrian Church of Christ

**Blaine Schwartz** 

The Tom Vaughn Family

Gerald Sikorski

Geraldine Petty

Carolyn Slatton

Kenneth Slatton

Don & Donna Smith

Joe & Pat McClain

Joe & Wanda Stone

Tim & Cathy Firm

Ward & Ruth Sullivan

Daniel & Pamela Schuck

Walter & LaVerne Szych

Linda Case

**Everett Tate** 

Anonymous

Elinor Currie

Carol Sikes

Jack & Robbie Sikes

William & Pearl Taylor

Willene Winfree

**Wyatt & Edith Tittle** 

Michael & Brenda Tittle

**Phyllis Treece** 

Dennis & Barbara Falkenheim

James Tucker
Dorothy Tucker

Erlon & Maydell Turner

Jim & Bertha O'Rourke

**Hazel Utley** 

Wanda Utley

**Dalton Vaughn** 

The Tom Vaughn Family

Leisha Vaughn

The Tom Vaughn Family

W.O. & Madie Vaughn

The Tom Vaughn Family

**Gregg Wadsworth** 

Joan Wadsworth

Willie Wagner

The Tom Vaughn Family

George & Lu Warren

John & Patricia Shephard

James Wash

Jim & Mary Anne Watters

R. W. Williams

Cal & Pat Seccombe

**Alvin Winfree** 

Willene Winfree

Edwin Witherspoon, Jr.

Jim & Cora Canterbury Larry & Ann Demyanovich

**Beverly Zagar** 

Don & Mary Jane Baugh

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Shults-Lewis Child & Family Services • PO Box 471 • Valparaiso, IN 46384





# Thank you to all of the Groups who visited in June & July







